

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested in light of the following remarks.

Claims 31-50, 52-60, 62-72, 74-82, 84-115, and 120-124 are pending.

DOUBLE PATENTING

Claims 31-50, 52-60, 62-72, 74-82, 84-115, and 120-124 were rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 1 of U.S. Patent No. 6,927,258, or 6,921,794, or 6,867,260, or 6,642,316 for the reasons stated on page 2 of the Action. Applicants respectfully submit terminal disclaimers along with the authorization to pay the requisite fees and request that the rejection be withdrawn.

Claims 31-50, 52-60, 62-72, 74-82, 84-115, and 120-124 were provisionally rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claim 1 of copending Application No. 10/613,374 or 11/058,789 for the reasons stated on page 2 of the Action. Applicants respectfully submit a terminal disclaimer along with the authorization to pay the requisite fee for Application No. 11/058,789 and request that the rejection be withdrawn. For Application No. 10/613,374, Applicants note that this application has issued as U.S. Patent No 6,927,258 referenced and disclaimed in the previous paragraph.

Applicants thank the Examiner for the indication of allowable subject matter as stated on page 3 of the Action.

Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in the application. In the alternative, Applicants invite the Examiner to telephone the undersigned attorney, if there are any issues outstanding which have not been presented to the Examiner's satisfaction.

Respectfully submitted,

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